

Application No. 09/711,709

**REMARKS**

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Official Action mailed on July 24, 2003. This response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by D'Angelo et al. (US Patent 5,405,614).

Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over D'Angelo et al.

Applicant notes with gratitude that claims 11 and 23 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 11 and 23 have been accordingly rewritten in independent form and are deemed allowable. Although Applicant traverses the above §102 and §103 rejections, for the purposes of expedited allowance, claims 13 and 25 have been canceled.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,  
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